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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,307	03/22/2004	Fumiharu Nakayama	016907-1632	9166
23428 7590 04/16/2008 FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007				
EXAMINER RODRIGUEZ, LENNIN R				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2625				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/16/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/805,307

Applicant(s)

NAKAYAMA, FUMIHARU

Examiner

LENNIN R. RODRIGUEZ

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/22/2004
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species A, regarding claims 1-4 in the reply filed on 3/05/2008 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakamura (JP 2002-086854, all citations from the machine translation).

(1) regarding claim 1:

Nakamura '854 discloses an image forming apparatus (1 in Fig. 1) comprising:

a main body of the image forming apparatus (It is evident in Fig. 1 that the printing apparatus has a body);

a wireless LAN module that is provided inside a rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus (Abstract, SOLUTION, lines 3-7, paragraph [0014], lines 1-2 and 112, in Fig. 1, where the control circuit contains the wireless LAN and is located at the back of the printer as could be referenced by looking at Fig 1 and looking at the

control panel 113, generally at the front of a printer so users can have easy access to it);

an antenna that is provided on the rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus (111 in Fig. 1, where the antenna is located on the back of the printer if you are looking at it from the right side of the figure where the control panel 113 is); and

a cable that connects the wireless LAN module and the antenna with a shortest distance (as can be shown in Fig. 1, antenna 111 and control circuit 112 are close together, it is inherent that a cable should be use for connecting an antenna with something else, in this case a wireless LAN, since an antenna by itself does not performs any functionality and by looking at the closeness of the two components it is apparent for the examiner that the shortest distance of cable should be used, because it would be unnecessary the use of extra cable for such a short connection).

(2) regarding claim 2:

Nakamura '854 further discloses wherein the wireless LAN module is provided on a control board that is disposed inside the rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus (Abstract, SOLUTION, lines 3-7, paragraph [0014], lines 1-2 and 112, in Fig. 1, where the control circuit contains the wireless LAN and is located at the back of the printer as could be referenced by looking at Fig 1 and looking at the control panel 113, generally at the front of a printer so users can have easy access to it).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura (JP 2002-086854) in view of Lynch et al. (US 6,069,587).

(1) regarding claim 3:

Nakamura '854 discloses all the subject matter as described above except wherein the antenna comprises a main antenna and a sub-antenna.

However, Lynch '587 teaches wherein the antenna comprises a main antenna and a sub-antenna (column 3, lines 41-56, where there is a main antenna 16 and an antenna extension 18 (sub-antenna)).

Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the antenna comprises a main antenna and a sub-antenna as taught by Lynch '587 in the system of Nakamura '854. With this, when the MEM switches are open, electrical isolation is established between the antenna segments, thereby allowing the antenna to operate in one frequency range without interference from the other frequency ranges. Accordingly, the MEM switches couple additional segments to the antenna, thereby allowing the antenna to operate in different frequency ranges (column 2, lines 22-28).

(2) regarding claim 4:

Nakamura '854 discloses all the subject matter as described above except wherein the antenna comprises a dual-band antenna.

However, Lynch '587 teaches wherein the antenna comprises a dual-band antenna (10 in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 41-56).

Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the antenna comprises a dual-band antenna as taught by Lynch '587 in the system of Nakamura '854. With this, when the MEM switches are open, electrical isolation is established between the antenna segments, thereby allowing the antenna to operate in one frequency range without interference from the other frequency ranges. Accordingly, the MEM switches couple additional segments to the antenna, thereby allowing the antenna to operate in different frequency ranges (column 2, lines 22-28).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LENNIN R. RODRIGUEZ whose telephone number is (571)270-1678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:30am - 6:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on (571) 272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2625

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

Lennin Rodriguez
4/10/08